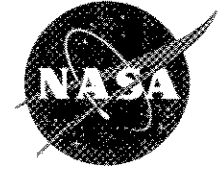


National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Headquarters  
Washington, DC 20546-0001



September 8, 2008

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at the United Space Alliance (USA) Supplier Symposium, Huntsville, Alabama

USA will sponsor a "supplier symposium" for 15-17 September, 2008, in Huntsville, Alabama at the Huntsville Marriot. This year's symposium will follow the agenda from last year's, including general sessions covering the Space Shuttle Program, International Space Station, and Constellation, and related matters. This year approximately 450 persons are expected to attend, including about 80 NASA employees (including from HQ NASA), 300 supplier representatives, and 75 USA employees. The symposium format is panel and individual discussions, and includes an evening social, a reception, and a dinner. Speakers will include senior NASA, contractor, and supplier officials. The total per capita cost for facilities, refreshments, and meals is approximately \$250. NASA personnel will not participate in the conference itself, except as possible invited speakers. The event will permit NASA employees to hear discussions with representatives from the aerospace industry, including suppliers, and will serve to reinforce the nature of an integrated team approach that comprises the U.S. space program.

I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g). I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event because they will have the opportunity to share views on the civil space program with their counterparts in industry. This will further Agency programs and operations. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect USA, may accept an invitation for free attendance to the reception for themselves and their spouses or guests. NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect USA, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 CFR § 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

NASA employees should also take care not to discuss any information that is internal "NASA only" or otherwise sensitive information, such as the CEV procurement.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam F. Greenstone".

Adam F. Greenstone